

Amendments to the Specifications:

Please amend the fourth complete paragraph on page 3 as follows:

-- The present invention provides a continuous surface preparation process for metals such as titanium, aluminum, stainless steel, nickel, and copper.- The term "metals" as used herein includes alloys. The process of the present invention may be utilized in the overall process of forming titanium/graphite (TiGr) laminate structures. By way of overview and with reference to FIGURES 1, 2, and 3 one presently preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a process including a grit blast line 10 (FIG. 1), a sol-gel coating line 40 (FIG. 2), and an adhesive coating line-70 100 (FIG. 3). It is to be understood that it is an aspect of the present invention to combine the three separate lines 10, 40, and-70 100 into a single continuous line if desired. Specific details of the process are described with more detail below. --

Please amend the fourth complete paragraph on pages 5-6 as follows:

-- Material 14 travels upwardly through oven section 92 where the solvent is evaporated off. The temperature in oven-75 92 is about 150-170°F with a preferred temperature of about 160°F. Heated air is supplied to oven-75 92 through inlet duct 72 and the solvent vapor exits through exhaust duct 86. --